

DELAWARE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD

**The Townsend Building
401 Federal Street, Suite 2
Dover, Delaware 19901**

Meeting Minutes

**The Department of Education
The Cabinet Room**

**September 2, 2010
5:15 p.m.**

Members Present: Joanne Christian, Stephanie DeWitt, Marilyn Dollard, Karen Gordon, Cristy Greaves, Lori Hudson, David Kohan, Jill Lewandowski, Whitney Price, Shelley Rouser, Kathleen Thomas and Jacqueline Wisnauskas

Members Absent: Michael Casson, Samtra Devard, Chris Kenton, Wendy Murray

Others Present: Charlie Michels; PSB Executive Director, Paula Fontello; Deputy Attorney General, Judi Coffield; State Board of Education Policy Analyst, Pearl Carrington; Secretary to PSB, Mary Pinkston; 2010 DE TOY, Sylvia Gilpatrick; Program Manager, Delaware Comprehensive Assessment System, (DCAS) and Iisha Price.

I. Opening

Call to Order: Ms. Thomas, Professional Standards Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Ms. Christian and a second was noted to approve the Agenda. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of June 3, 2010: A motion was made by Dr. Greaves and a second was noted to approve the PSB Minutes of August 5, 2010. The motion carried.

II. Public Comment

None

III. DOE Report

Mr. Cruce, DOE Deputy Secretary, reported on the latest RTTT and educational reform developments in Delaware.

- Data Coaches, Developmental Coaches, Leadership Training.
 - Phased in, in January 2011 – The Department would like to have two vendors.
 - Training would begin as soon as selections are made

- Partnership Zones ~ Four persistently underperforming Delaware schools were selected per RTTT criteria to receive resources (grants of up to \$2.2 million over four years) and assistance to improve their students' academic performance.
 - Positive Outcomes Charter School in Camden
 - Stubbs Elementary School in Wilmington
 - Howard High School of Technology in Wilmington
 - Glasgow High School in Newark
 - There will be an additional six schools next school year.
- RTTT Management Unit Leaders:
 - School Turnaround Unit~ Noreen Lasora
 - Performance Management Unit ~ Jim Palma
 - Leader Effectiveness Unit ~ Peter Shulman
- On September 8th the DOE team will be going to Washington, D. [Mr. Cruce, Dr. Lowery, Governor Markell, and Ms. Diane Donahue of DSEA] to talk to the Feds about what the DOE has learned so far.

IV. Executive Director's Report

- Mr. Michels stated that Mr. Dennis Savage was a double-term State Board of Education member. Upon his retirement from the Board, Mr. Michels presented him with the coveted engraved wooden PSB pen and pencil set during the August 19, 2010 SBE meeting.
- Mr. Michels attended the School Chief's meeting on August 31, 2010 and spoke about Emergency Certificate concerns of both Boards and potential amends to DE Code surrounding Initial Licensure.
- Mr. Michels attended the DOE Office of Teacher and Administrator Quality Development's quarterly meeting in August. This was a well attended meeting by district, charter school and higher education representatives.
- Mr. Michels shared a note from Ms. Gretchen Pikus, former PSB member, thanking the PSB for as meaningful two terms on the PSB and for the beautiful and coveted engraved wooden pen and pencil set and framed recognition certificate.
- Mr. Michels met on August 30, 2010 with Dr. Patricia Bigelow of the DOE and Ms. Cathy Owens-Oliver, Client Relations Director, Educational Testing Services [ETS]. There were extensive and productive discussions around Praxis I and Praxis II.
- Mr. Michels met with Dr. Sue Lee, the Director of the Jobs for Delaware Graduates (JDG) and discussed the School to Work Transition Teacher Standard Certificate.
- Mr. Michels asked Members for feedback on his 'Reg-in-a Box' project. This is an attempt to put in a flow chart, the steps necessary to earn an initial or subsequent Standard Certificate. Mr. Michels hoped to be able to add these to the PSB web page in the future.

V. 2010 Delaware Teacher of the Year

Ms. Mary Pinkston was welcomed and introduced with considerable enthusiasm by Ms. Thomas as the 2010 Delaware's Teacher of the Year. Ms. Pinkston began

by speaking about her educational history and that she was a product and graduate of public schools in Delaware and Pennsylvania which in turn had brought her to this high point in her career. She reflected about her multitude of TOY experiences [*her visits to the White House, Space Camp in Florida, lunch with the Governor, parades and accolades*] while working most every day with Brandywine High School students in mathematics. Ms. Pinkston spoke eloquently about the opportunities afforded her and the impact that appreciative students have had on her. The Board commended Ms. Pinkston on her accomplishments and wished her and her students the best in the school year ahead.

VI. Action Items

A. 1582 School Nurse

After a brief conversation over the content, Ms. Fontello suggested that any Action of 1582 School Nurse be held until next month. The Board took no action and the matter will be placed on the October Agenda for Action.

B. 1521 Elementary Teacher

Mr. Michels stated that 1521 Elementary Teacher had been published and discussed and that he had received no written comments to date. This regulation was before the PSB for Final Approval. Ms. Lewandowski made a motion to Approve 1521 Elementary Teacher. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gordon. The motion carried.

C. 2010-2011 Mentor and Lead Mentor Stipends

Mr. Michels stated that the PSB and the SBE, as required in statute, must annually approval extra responsibility salary supplements for Mentors and Lead Mentors. A motion for Approval was made by Ms. Dollard and seconded by Mr. Kohan. Ms. Lewandowski abstained. The motion carried.

D. 2010-2011 Approved Clusters

The PSB and the SBE, as required in statute, must annually review, modify as necessary, and affirm an updated list of Approved Clusters for Fiscal Year 2011. Mr. Michels presented an updated list of clusters reflecting valid clusters and indicating expired clusters. A motion for Approval was made by Ms. Hudson and seconded by Ms. Wisnauskas. The motion carried.

E. Praxis II 5014 Elementary Education

Mr. Michels stated that Educational Testing Services had recently developed the computer version of test 0014 Elementary Education. He further elaborated that Test 5014 has the same content as 0014 and the cut score of 151 would remain. Mr. Michels felt that it was important for the Board to approve this test to insure no future certification issues. A motion was made by Ms. Hudson to approve electronic version 5014. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lewandowski. The motion carried. Mr. Michels will work with Ms. Fontello on regulation language to insure that future computer-based PX II exams will be 'applicable and available'.

VII. Discussion

A. 1505 Standard Certificate

Michels reiterated to the Board that regulation 1505 is The Standard Certificate regulation to which many other Standard Certificates are referenced. Mr. Michels has had numerous conversations with DOE staff regarding some language that could use some clarifying and tightening, so as insure the highest caliber of educators. As 1505 is the repository for a variety of definitions for numerous regulations, Mr. Michels has added a few. There are several current options for the definition of 'Professional Development', all connected to regulation 1511 Issuance and Renewal of Continuing License. One critical amendment is to allow the Department the final approval of professional development that an applicant intends to use for certification. Currently employing authorities have the final say, and at times the Department has expressed serious concerns about choices. Ms. Fontello and Mr. Michels will continue to work on the regulation.

B. 1565 World Language Teacher

Mr. Michels stated that the General Assembly and the Governor recently approved American Sign Language (ASL) as a World Language. Beginning with high school freshman entering high schools next year, 2 years of World Language will be required for graduation 4 years later. Employing authorities have begun to solicit ASL teachers and have questioned the Department for certification qualifications. Upon the Governor signing HB 345, Mr. Michels did considerable research and subsequently convened a meeting with interested and relevant DOE personnel to review the current World Language Teacher certification regulation. It was determined that as it stood, the regulation generally allowed for pathways for ASL certification, but that it could be amended to provide more clarity in this area. Mr. Michels has worked closely with Dr. Gregory Fulkerson, the DOE Education Associate for World Languages on appropriate language changes. Mr. Michels and Ms. Fontello will continue to work on this regulation with appropriate outside feedback.

C. 1583 School Psychologist

Mr. Michels stated that the regulation 1583 was approved last month by the Board to be published, and is on the September 16, 2010 State Board of Education Agenda for Concurrence to Publish. Mr. Michels compared the language of other regulations and consulted with several DOE staff who have direct ties to the work of a School Psychologist. As previously requested by the Board, non-substantive changes were made to Section 1.1 for clarity. At Dr. Coffield's suggestion, Mr. Michels will forward the amended regulation to the State DOE Board electronically with the changes. The Board expressed no further concerns.

D. 1517 Permits Paraeducator

Mr. Michels stated that this regulation was approved for Publication by the PSB in August, and is on the September 16, 2010 State Board of Education Agenda for their Concurrence to Publish. The Board expressed no further concerns.

VIII. Presentation

Ms. Sylvia Gillpatrick, Program Manager for Delaware Comprehensive Assessment System [DCAS], the Delaware State testing program, presented an overview of the current status of the new system. The contract for this student assessment program was approved on December 23, 2009. Ms. Gillpatrick gave a well-received condensed PowerPoint presentation of the DCAS testing system and answered timely questions. Ms. Gillpatrick noted that PSB members could go online and view the portal at www.de.portal.airast.org.

IX. PSB Standing Committees

A. Licensure and Certification Criteria

The Licensure and Certification Criteria Committee has not met since their 7/2/2010 meeting.

B. Professional Development and Associated Compensation

The Professional Development and Associated Compensation Committee has not met.

C. Mentoring Ad Hoc

Ms. Thomas reported to the PSB Board that the AD Hoc Committee met previous to the Board meeting and reviewed Mr. Michels' draft of the application and rubric. It was a productive meeting with several constructive suggestions to the document which Mr. Michels will incorporate into the documents.

X. Other

None

XI. Public Comment

None

XII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. DeWitt and seconded by Dr. Greaves to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.